THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

# MILLENNIAL STAR.

[ESTABLISHED 1840].

*"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life: but the wrath of God abideth on him"* (JOHN 3: 36).

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## THE JEWS AND THEIR DESTINY.

RECENTLY an artist has vividly pictured the present pathetic condition of the Jews by a long-bearded, sagacious old Jewish rabbi, disconsolately holding a globe of the world in his hands, and seeking vainly for a place upon its surface to call his own. I can imagine him turning the globe from the western to the eastern continent, from the north to the south, seeking for a resting place for the descendants of Judah; but all in vain. He might pause for a moment as his eyes rest upon the land of Palestine, the land of his forefathers, the glorious promised land; but there is now no rest there. This part of the world has also come under the devastating influence of the world-war. The great work done by Baron Hirsh, Baron Edmund de Rothschild, and other Jewish philanthropists, and Zionistic societies, with their millions of wealth, in colonizing the Jews, seems to have been partly in vain. "The forty flourishing colonies that have sprung up in the deserts of Palestine and Galilee," are now being devastated by the tyrannical vandalism of the Mohammedan Turks. "Fifteen thousand Jews have fled from Palestine to find shelter in Egypt," the refuge of their forefathers about four thousand years ago. There seems to be no "promised land" for the Jews. From a patriotic Jewish point of view, this world must present a grim, tragic, and desolate scene.

The Jews are still suffering for their rebellion against the Son of God. This dreary and forlorn scene shows how truthfully the scriptures have been vindicated. The Jews have been a "hiss" and a "byword," a "curse" and a "reproach among all the nations whither" the Lord hath "driven them" (Jer. 29: 17-19). But there is one thing to remember—that although the Jews have been a

down-trodden, persecuted, reviled, and despised people, their eventual destiny is the most glorious, promising, and effulgent of all of God's children. At the present, by noting closely the part the Jews are playing in the world's drama, and their racial instincts and characteristics, we can see how they are gradually emerging from their past hated and insignificant position, and are becoming a great factor in the world's history. Although they are now divided among the nations of the world, and are, consequently, striving, along with their respective nations, to destroy one another, the time will come when they will unite and become one of the greatest of the world's powers.

The following facts from the *Literary Digest* will show the greatness of this despised people. There are about 14,500,000 Jews in the world, 10,000,000 of whom are affected by the war. The *Jewish Chronicle* estimates that at least 550,000 Jews are now fighting in the armies of the belligerent nations. The Jewish population of the British Isles is about 245,000, 16,000 of whom are in the army. "Hundreds have secured medals, and three have secured the most coveted order—the Victoria Cross. Five Hebrews are holding positions in the British Cabinet. One Lord Reading, has become Lord Chief Justice; five are in the House of Lords, six are privy councilors, sixteen are baronets, fourteen are knights, and eighteen are members of Parliament."

Proportionately, the Jews are even more active in France. "The total Jewish population of France is a little over 100,000. Before the war, in the regular army there were 8 Hebrew generals, 14 colonels, 21 lieutenants, 68 majors, and 107 captains; but now over 10,000 Jews are in the ranks, and are doing gallant work on land, sea, and in the air. Five Jews are holding important positions in the Cabinet."

The Jews are likewise active in Belgium and Italy. Besides many of them joining the ranks in Italy, 16 are members of parliament, and 14 are senators. In 1910, a Jew was Prime Minister of Italy.

There are 6,000,000 Jews in Russia, 350,000 of whom are serving as "valorous" soldiers. They have performed their part well, despite the many restrictions placed upon them by the Russian Government.

The Jews are also playing a prominent part in the history of Germany and Austria. In Germany there are 615,000 Jews, many of whom have won favor with the government because of their intelligence and valor. "To a Jew, Herr Arthur Ballin, the Kaiser has entrusted the general management of all the German railways, and he is personally in charge of the transportation of all the German troops." To show the character of some Jews, we might add that Herr Liebknecht, a Jew, was "the only man who dared to defy the Kaiser in the Reichstag, and vote openly against the war loan." Karl Marx, a Jew, laid down the scientific foundation of

socialism. Ferdinand Lassale, a Jew, founded the German Social-Democratic party, and its present leader, Hugo Hasse, is also a Jew.

If space would permit, other instances could be related in corroboration of the great acting force the descendants of Judah are exerting upon the unraveling of the world's history. We all know how the Jew inherits that power of saving and wisely investing his wealth, until now almost innumerable industries are controlled by them. It is surprising to note the number of successful business men who are of this nationality. Men who have ascended to the loftiest heights of finance, for example, the Rothschilds, and others, are included among these people.

Thus we can see how the Jews, though scattered throughout the nations, are, to a large extent, guiding the political and financial conditions of the world. We can hardly overestimate the glory, power, and splendor of a government formed by the united effort—and help of God—of all the Jews, when they gather together and exert all their potential energy in making a nation and a home for themselves. Does it not seem reasonable to think that the Jews will sicken of being divided among themselves, and desire more than ever a country to call their own? The spirit of gathering to the land of their inheritance has been manifest among the Jews for the last half-century, and undoubtedly, as the time goes on, it will more than ever actuate the life and soul of this exiled people.

It is thought by many leading authorities that the promised land of Palestine will be made a neutral province after the Great War, and will never again be given over to the despotic government of the Turks. Thus the emigration of the Jews to the Holy Land will be greatly facilitated. We have the sure word of God that this great gathering will take place. Many will gather in unbelief, and will not accept Christ as their Savior and Redeemer until He appears before them and shows them the imprints in His hands and feet (Zech. 12: 10; 13: 6). Many other Jews will gather to Palestine with the expectation of the coming of their Lord and Savior to reign on earth in His resplendent power and glory (II. Nephi 25: 15-17, and 30: 7; Jer. 32: 36-44). One colony of Jews has already gathered to Palestine, believing in Christ. A great temple will be built by the Jews, and the land of Palestine will once more become a thriving and prosperous land. "flowing with milk and honey." "This land that was desolate is to become like the Garden of Eden."

In fact, this land will become so progressive that the jealousy, envy, and enmity of the nations will be aroused. President Charles W. Penrose states that after the devastating and wasteful wars in which the world is engaged, "the bankrupt nations, envying the wealth of the sons of Judah, will seek a pretext to make war upon them, and will invade the 'holy land' to 'take prey and a spoil'"

(Ezek. 38: 8-14). But God will raise up two mighty prophets to the Jews, who will perform many mighty miracles among them, which will be the means of preserving them from their enemies (Rev. 11: 3-7; Doc. and Cov. 77: 15). "And it seems that the Gentile army shall be hindered from utterly destroying the city (Jerusalem) while these two prophets continue" (Parley P. Pratt). These two prophets will be slain by the marauding armies, which will cause much rejoicing among them (Rev. 11: 8-10). The armies will then gain power over the Jews, and their works of vandalism and depredation will last for three days and a half, during which time the bodies of the two prophets will remain in the streets.

But this terrible and atrocious condition of bloodshed, rape, and murder is not to last. Christ, the great Messiah they have looked for, will come to His down-trodden people in the midst of their sorrow and tribulation. He, the Great Deliverer, will overthrow the plundering armies of the gentiles in the midst of their pillaging. Earthquakes will send the "walls" crashing to the ground, mountains will tremble, quake, and be destroyed. Confusion will reign among the warriors of Gog, and in the awful din and clamor that follows they will slay one another (Ezek. 39: 20, 21) The Mount of Olives, which is a little to the east of Jerusalem, will cleave in twain, "and there shall be a very great valley" (Zech. 14: 4), into which the Jews will flee.

Then comes the event which the old Jewish prophets loved to contemplate. The great Messiah will appear in their midst. Many of the Jews will know that He is Jesus the Christ, whom their forefathers persecuted (II. Nephi 25: 15-17), and the consolation, love, happiness, and joy that will fill their hearts, is beyond contemplation. But there will be many others who never have believed that Jesus Christ, whom their forefathers crucified, was again coming to the earth. These wondering Jews will ask the Messiah incredulously "What are these wounds in thine hands? Then he shall answer, Those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends" (Zech. 13: 6). "I am he who was lifted up. I am Jesus that was crucified. I am the Son of God" (Doc. and Cov. 45: 52).

When these unbelieving Jews realize that this is truly the Lord Jesus whom they have rejected, remorse and anguish will gnaw at their hearts "and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son" (Zech. 13: 10). "They shall look upon him whom they have pierced and shall lament because they persecuted their King" (Doc. and Cov. 45: 53). They will accept Jesus as the Messiah, Son of God, and great Redeemer. He will be their strength and power and "King over all the earth." All enemies of the kingdom of God will be destroyed, and the nations will eventually see that the true gospel of Christ has the power of life, salvation, and peace. The God of Israel will be recognized as the only true and living God. His word and law will go forth from the

two world-capitals, Zion in America, and Jerusalem in the land of Palestine (Isa. 2:3).

Christ's mission of "peace on earth, good will toward men" will then have been accomplished, and He who was born in a lowly manger at Bethlehem will have arisen above all things, putting all enemies beneath His feet, and reign as "King of kings," and "Lord of lords," "forever and ever." The Jews will have awakened and Jerusalem will have donned her "beautiful garments" (Isa. 52).

Leeds. VERNER O. HEWLETT.

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## WHITHER ARE WE DRIFTING?

THE Book of Abraham, which forms part of The Pearl of Great Price, was given to the world at a time when the astronomical knowledge of man was less developed than it is now. Nevertheless, in that book, brought to light by the Prophet Joseph Smith, the most advanced ideas about the universe are found. There we read that the stars in their courses are governed by greater stars, and that all move around the center where the throne of God stands.

The following article from the *Literary Digest* is very interesting, if read in the light that comes from modern inspired records:

"The feeling that we get back every year to the precise point in space that we occupied a year before is very comforting to some people. We like to think that our planet is jogging cozily round and round in a prescribed orbit, instead of shooting off into the depths of unexplored space like some crazy comet. As a matter of fact, however, we do not get back at all. The point in space occupied by our earth on January 1, 1912, is distant by about 400,000,000 miles from the place where it was on January 1, 1911, and a year hence it will be as far away again, in the same direction. The sun is making as wild an excursion into the spatial wilderness as the most lunatic comet could contrive. Wilder, indeed; for the comet sooner or later returns, whereas there is no evidence that the sun, with his attendant spheres, is moving otherwise than in the straightest of straight lines. In *Popular Astronomy* (Northfield, Minn., January) Prof. John Candee Dean tells us some of the things that are known about this solar motion. First suspected by the great astronomer Herschel, it was demonstrated seventy years ago by the Russian Struve, that this movement carries the sun and its system through space with inconceivable velocity in the direction of the constellation Hercules. Later, Mädler, of Dorpat, announced that the sun was moving around a central orb, in a period of 18,000,000 years, but modern astronomers find no evidence that the sun is deviating from a straight line. Among authorities, there has been considerable range as to the exact point toward which the sun is flying, but it will be found that they

nearly all agree that the general direction is toward the constellation of Hercules, near the point first assigned by Herschel and Struve. We read:

"'It has been found that the sun is moving toward its apex with a velocity of about twelve miles a second. To realize what this means, consider that the muzzle velocity of a shot from a large modern cannon is only 1,500 feet per second, while the sun moves with a speed of 63,000 feet per second, or forty-two times as fast. If a cannon-shot could be projected with the velocity of the sun, its energy and penetrating power would be increased 1,700 times, and if a shot could be made that would withstand the enormous pressure and heat generated, it would penetrate 1,500 feet of solid steel. Practically, however, a steel shot moving at this velocity and striking such a thick, solid steel plate, would be instantly fused by the heat generated from impact.

"'The earth's mean velocity toward the apex is, of course, the same as that of the sun, while its orbital velocity in 18½ miles a second. * * * The star called 61 Cygni, in the constellation of the Swan, is the nearest star visible in our latitude. While the sun moves nearly 400,000,000 miles in a year, it would take 100,000 years for it to move over a space equal to the distance that separates us from the nearest star. In the sun's flight toward its apex, it will take over 500,000 years for it to pass the star Vega, but since Vega has a slow motion at right angles to the sun's motion, it follows that the sun will never pass very near that star.

"'While the sun moves at a uniform rate, and probably in a straight line, the earth, owing to its motion around the sun, describes a huge spiral in space.'

"Knowledge of the sun's motion has enabled astronomers to make the 'base-line' used for their observations as long as they choose—as many times 400,000,000 miles as the number of years that they wait between measurements. Formerly the base-line was limited to 93,000,000 miles—the distance across the earth's orbit. The result has been the recognition of 'proper motions' of the stars, as distinguished from the apparent motions that are due to our own flight through space. Says Professor Dean:

"'A remarkably interesting phenomenon of two great drifts of stars, moving in opposite directions, has recently been discovered. About 10,000 stars were dealt with in this investigation. The *fast-moving* drift is flowing away from the constellation of the Serpent Bearer. The *slow-moving* drift is flowing from the constellation of the Lynx. The two streams of stars appear to be nearly equally divided, and are completely intermingled with each other. The phenomenon is explained on the theory that two great universes have been drawn together, probably by mutual attraction, and are now passing through each other. Because of the enormous distance between individual stars, the chances of collisions between them are very small. It must not be assumed that the discovery

of the phenomenon of the two opposing stellar drifts has upset the theory as to the position of the solar apex; on the contrary, its position calculated in this way satisfactorily agrees with that found by the other method.'"

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## "BE THOU FAITHFUL."

THERE are times when we get disheartened in the Christian life. We try, oh! so hard, to serve our Master faithfully and well, and we seem to make no progress at all. We honestly try to shine, but even at the best our light seems but a feeble flicker in the darkness. We wonder, indeed, if anyone ever notices it. Can it be that our tiny gleam of light will help anyone along the pathway to heaven? But let us not despair. No life can be faithfully lived without making its mark upon the world. We may not see the results of our labor in our day, but in God's good time they will surely appear. Our Master's life on earth was, in the eyes of the world at that time, a terrible failure. The end of it was a shameful and cruel death on Calvary. "Where is His boasted triumph now?" asked His enemies. Yet to-day the name of Christ is revered the wide world over, whilst His professed followers are legion, of all colors and races. In the very hour of defeat, He triumphed most gloriously.

So it is with us. In the eyes of the world our lives may seem utter and dire failures. We may often be disheartened that our light is so feeble. But if we live faithfully, if we honestly strive to serve God to the best of our ability, our triumph shall indeed be great.

Remember, it does not matter what others think, or say, so long as the Master says, "Well done!"

Nuneaton. LUCY HARTOPP.

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AGES before Newton, Job got a vision of the ethereal thread that sustained the earth. Ages before Newton verified it, and ages before Darwin conceived the connection and interdependence and evolution of things, Hosea caught a vision of the same unity and evolution; but God is at one end and Jezreel at the other. These are the links in the chain. The earth hears the voice; the corn and the wine and the oil hear the earth; then Jezreel. The universe is not a chaos; it is a chain. And the last link of the golden chain is about the feet of God.—W. L. WATKINSON, D.D., in the *Homiletic Review*.

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"TACT is a gift: it is likewise a grace. As a gift, it may, or may not have fallen to our share: as a grace, we are bound either to possess or to acquire it."—CHRISTINA ROSSETTI.

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 1916.

EDITORIAL.

## JEWS AND THE WAR.

THE prophet Nephi (II. Nephi 27: 1-2) predicted that the time would come, "in the last days," when all the nations of the Gentiles and also the Jews should be ripe for the judgment of the Almighty, and "when that day shall come," he said, "they shall be visited of the Lord of Hosts with thunder, and with earthquake, and with a great noise, and with storm, and with tempest, and with the flame of devouring fire."

There could be no more striking description of the warfare in which the nations now are engaged. The thunder of the modern artillery rivals the thunder of heaven, and it is going on day and night, week after week, month after month. The holes made in the ground and the effects on buildings by the high explosives can best be compared with the destruction caused by earthquakes. Noise and storm and tempest, and flames of devouring fire are terms graphically describing attacks and defense in modern warfare.

But there is one point in this prophecy which should be noted. Nephi says that the Jews were to be involved in this visitation, as well as the Gentiles. Has this come true?

Mr. S. B. Rohold, of the Christian Synagogue at Toronto, writing in *The Missionary Review*, says that there are 550,000 Jews in the field. There are now twelve nations fighting, with armies totalling 20,000,000 men, or 2.6 of the population. The Jews have double that percentage, or 5.5 per cent of their entire number. The Jewish population of the British Isles is about 245,000, and over 16,000 are in the ranks. The total Jewish population in France is a little over 100,000. Over 10,000 Jews are in the ranks. Belgium had 15,000 Jews. The first man taken as a hostage when the Germans entered Antwerp, was a Rothschild. German Jews have contributed their full share toward that remarkable display of efficiency, both military and economic, which has astonnded the world.

And yet, the Jews in the stricken countries, especially Poland, have suffered beyond description. According to reports in the *Jewish Chronicle*, "Some two hundred thousand Jews who have been living in the confines of Kovno, Courland, and Suwalki were exiled by the Russian authorities, so that, in the technical language employed, those districts might be 'evacuated of Jews.' Our unfortunate brethren upon whom this decree fell, were compelled

to obey it at a short notice, varying from eight hours to thirty at the most. In that time two hundred thousand people had to leave their homes, their possessions, their all, and face—they knew not what! What followed requires the pen of Dante adequately to narrate. Not one Jewish soul of all this vast population was allowed to remain, so that towns which had contained a large proportion of Jewish inhabitants were deserted.

"The actual woes, sorrows, and agonizing tragedy of martyrdom of the great Jewry will never be told; nor are we able to comprehend the magnitude of its frightfulness and horrors. The Honorable Louis de Brandeis, chairman of the United States Government Business Committee at Washington, tells us that no fewer than five hundred thousand Jews have lost their lives since the war started, either on the battlefield or by the invading armies.

"With Mr. Herman Landau, chairman of the Central Committee, we feel that: 'A cry of frenzied despair comes from those countries. The vast cyclone of destruction, the most formidable that the world has ever seen, has passed over the Jewish pale of settlement. Since the time of the Tartar invasion there has never been a country in Europe so utterly devastated. In many districts not a single congregation was spared; synagogues were burned, hospitals and homes for aged and orphans have been destroyed and deserted. A population full of energy, of resources, and of intellectual abilities is at once thrown into wretched poverty, the brunt of the terrors falling upon hundreds of thousands of refugees.'"

In the midst of this destruction by thunder and earthquake and noise and devouring fire, some of the Jews seem to have lost faith in Zionism, which of late years has shone like a star of hope over Palestine. We quote again:

"The catastrophe that befell the Jewish hope in Palestine is very hard to realize. It is a very conservative estimate that during the past century not less than £100,000,000 have been spent by the different Jewish philanthropists, such as Baron Edmund de Rothschild, and other Jewish colonization and Zionistic societies.

"Practically every Jew in the world has a little box in his house with 'Great Alms for Palestine' written upon it, and it is looked upon as a meritorious act to put money in that box, which goes toward the keeping up of the Jewry in Palestine; and the Jewish papers throughout the world were all in praise of the wonderful awakening, and visions and dreams filled the minds of the Jews throughout the world. And what do we find now? Four thousand years ago the Jewish people had fled from the bondage of Egypt and found a haven of rest in Palestine, and now, after four thousand years, 15,000 Jewish refugees have fled from Palestine to find shelter in Egypt.

"Three notorious Turkish tyrants, Azymi Bey, Djemal Pasha, and Hardegg Pasha, occupying positions in different parts of Palestine and Syria, have not left an opportunity of showing their

ill-will toward the Jew, and especially giving themselves to devastate and erase practically out of existence all Jewish colonies; and to be a Zionist is now considered as a political crime.

"The shattered hope of the Jewish people in Palestine is, perhaps, one of the severest blows dealt to the wandering feet and weary breast."

The prophecy of Nephi has, indeed, come true, but let us say to our brethren of the scattered race, in the name of the God of Israel, that they have no reason for despair. If they will but turn to God and repent of that which is evil in His sight, He will gather them. The promise given through Moses is yet to be fulfilled:

"And it shall come to pass, when all these things are come upon thee, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before thee, and thou shalt call them to mind among all the nations, whither the Lord thy God hath driven thee. And shalt return unto the Lord thy God, and shalt obey his voice according to all that I command thee this day, thou and thy children, with all thine heart, and with all thy soul; that then the Lord thy God will turn thy captivity, and have compassion upon thee, and will return and gather thee from all the nations, whither the Lord thy God hath scattered thee. If any of thine be driven out unto the outmost parts of heaven, from thence will the Lord thy God gather thee, and from thence will he fetch thee; and the Lord thy God will bring thee into the land which thy fathers possessed, and thou shalt possess it; and he will do thee good, and multiply thee above thy fathers" (Deut. 30: 1-5).

Palestine is waiting for the Jew. It has been dedicated by divine authority, for the gathering of the Jews. The Lord is holding it for them. A writer in the *Jewish Chronicle* says:

"For some inscrutable reason that cannot be explained, unless on the score of faith and belief, Palestine has refused to yield its fruits to any but Jews. No colonization in Palestine has been successful in comparison with that which has been undertaken by our people. * * * Jewish faith and Jewish belief are bound up with the land of their fathers. They have been able to rescue desert wastes and transform them into smiling fields yielding produce, merely because, so it would seem, Palestine and Jew meet with the completeness of positive and negative. They have proved the one fecundating pollen in the anther of Palestine. The experimental colonization that has proceeded there has produced proof, as sure and certain as Holy Writ, of the capacity of the Jew and Palestine soil to produce of the very best."

And this conviction on the part of the Jews is shared by millions of Christians. For God is visibly reserving the country for them, in accordance with the prayers offered on the Mount of Olives by Orson Hyde, an Apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ, and by others.

Not only have the Jewish colonies in Palestine proved very successful, but—and this is just as remarkable—their agricultural efforts in other parts of the world have generally been unsuccessful. The colony of Jews in Utah, which was founded a few years ago, has utterly failed, although there was every prospect of

success. But Palestine is the land of the Jews, and when the time comes, they will be gathered there.

J. M. S.

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## ANNIVERSARY OF THE RELIEF SOCIETY.

On the 17th of this month it will be seventy-four years since the organization of the Relief Society of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

On the date mentioned, in the year 1842, the Prophet Joseph, having, undoubtedly, a presentiment that the end of his earthly career was approaching, called a meeting of prominent "sisters" at Nauvoo, in order to "make more complete the organization of the Church." Eighteen sisters were present. Emma Smith was chosen president of the society; Sarah M. Cleveland and Elizabeth Ann Whitney, counselors; Eliza R. Snow, secretary; Phœbe M. Wheeler, assistant secretary, and Elvira A. Cowles, treasurer.

That was the beginning of this great organization, which has always been one of the mainstays of the Church. In 1855, President Young instructed the bishops to organize a branch in each ward, and Eliza R. Snow was called to assist them. The work was done, and, as was clear afterwards, the Lord's hand was in it. For not only did the society render aid to the needy ones, but it became an influence which was felt from one end of the country to the other; and when wicked men in the councils of the American nation plotted oppressive measures against the saints, certain bills introduced in Congress failed to become law on account of the energetic and spirited protests of the Utah women, prominent in that organization. As early as 1870, the women of Utah had the rights of suffrage, and it should be remembered, when the English women finally obtain that coveted privilege, the women of the Relief Society of the Church were the pioneers in that line, as in so many other directions of human advancement.

Away back in 1870 the members of the Relief Society were given a special mission to teach the sisters not to follow the world in the matter of food and dress, but to eat simple food and wear plain clothes, in order that the duties of the wife might be easier, the burdens lighter, and there be more time for mental and spiritual development. As an outcome of this movement, a retrenchment organization was formed, which did splendid work for some time. In later years the subject may not have had the attention its importance demanded, but the principle has never been repudiated. The sisters of the Relief Society of the Church know that it is as true to-day as it was when St. Peter reminded the women of his day, that their adorning did not consist of plaiting the hair, wearing of gold and costly apparel, but of a "meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price" (1. Peter 3: 3-5).

The European branches of the Relief Society have, during the

war, done a great deal of good, both by relieving distress at home and by contributing articles of clothing to the men at the front. The statistics published in the *Star* of February 3rd, this year, speak for themselves. It can be added here that the patriotic assistance rendered by the sisters in the British mission has been very much appreciated by the committees in charge of army relief work, and the sisters have repeatedly been complimented on the neatness of their knitting and sewing. In Liverpool they have just been asked to render assistance again, and have cheerfully responded. Their intention is to give two hours every week to the patriotic work required of them. The Relief Societies in Edinburgh and Glasgow have been invited to co-operate with the Red Cross Society, to be known as Red Cross divisions of the Church, an invitation which, we presume, has been accepted.

The seventy-fourth anniversary of the Relief Society dawns upon an organization which, from a small beginning, has grown to immense proportions and become a force for good in the world. It is the work of the Lord, and to Him be the honor and glory.

J. M. S.

## IMPORTANT TO ALIENS.

THE attention of the elders in the British Mission is called to the subjoined important new government order relating to traveling in restricted areas. We copy it from the *Liverpool Post* of March 6th:

"The Press Bureau issues the following:—

"The Home Office calls the attention of alien friends to the important alteration in the restrictions relating to prohibited areas imposed by order in council. After March 13th an alien may not enter a prohibited area unless he is in possession of an identity book in the form prescribed by the Secretary of State, or has obtained special permission from the registration officer of the prohibited area, and he may be called upon at any time when in a prohibited area to produce his identity book to a police constable, aliens officer, etc., or to show that he has special permission.

"An alien who is resident and duly registered in a prohibited area on March 13th, may continue to reside there without obtaining an identity book or special permission, but if he proposes to move to another prohibited area, the above restrictions will apply. Identity books will be issued by the police authorities. An alien who wishes to go to any prohibited area should apply some days in advance for the blank form and instructions at the police station at which he is registered, or in London, at the nearest police station. A fee of one shilling is payable. A list of prohibited areas is on sale at the price of one penny, and may be purchased either directly or through any bookseller from the usual agents for Government publications.

"The regulation which forbids an alien enemy to enter or to be in a prohibited area, except by express permission of the registration officer, remains in full force."

## MINUTES OF THE IRISH CONFERENCE.

THE semi-annual conference was held at 106 Ann Street, Belfast, Ireland, on Sunday, March 5th, 1916. There were in attendance: President Hyrum M. Smith, of the European mission; Elder John E. Cottam, of the Liverpool office; Elders William Youkstetter and Charles Horlacher, of the Dublin branch; President George Brooks, Jr., and four traveling elders of the Irish conference.

The morning session commenced at 11 o'clock by singing. "The day-dawn is breaking." Prayer was offered by Brother Walter Pring. Continued by singing, "Reverently and meekly now."

Elder William W. Kent explained how Christ instituted the sacrament among His followers in Palestine, and afterwards among the Nephites, on the western continent; how He broke bread and blessed it, and that it was to be administered to baptized members. He then explained that in order to partake of it worthily, we must forgive the trespasses of our neighbors, and not have ill feelings towards any one.

The sacrament was then administered by Elders Leonard J. Wayment and Sidney L. Wyatt.

President George Brooks, Jr., gave the address of welcome. He said that if the prayer offered were answered, we would have a time of rejoicing, and he knew it would be answered, if we do our part. He spoke of the religious condition of the world, comparing present-day conditions to what commonly occurs when horses are being forded across a deep river. Men, instead of following the great plan laid down by the Leader, began "milling in the middle of the stream," that is, following one another in a circle, and continued to do so until there came a leader, who once more restored the plan of life and salvation. He read from the book of Alma, in the Book of Mormon, showing evidence of the true and living God.

Elder John E. Cottam, the next speaker, expressed his pleasure at being present. He read from the Doctrine and Covenants a passage pertaining to liberty, and said that true liberty consists in being in harmony with Christ. We come in contact with two great forces on this earth—the good and the evil. When we have tasted the influence that comes through obeying the gospel, we should continue to keep ourselves clean in every thing that we do. He contrasted the liberty acquired by fighting on the battle-field with that gained by living the gospel of Christ, and prayed that the saints of Ireland would live in harmony with God's Spirit, though they were separated, by the sea, from the main body of the Church.

A song was rendered by the little girls of the intermediate class of the Sunday School.

President Hyrum M. Smith then addressed the assembly, expressing the love that he felt toward the people of the Irish conference. Naturally, our love is first with our family, next with the members of the Church, then it extends to those outside. The fact that we go into all parts of the world and labor with His people, shows our love towards God. The earth is the Lord's, and men do not seem to realize it; they are trying to divide it among themselves. He spoke of the weapons of defense, and said that man was a belligerent creature, and of an aggressive nature. The gospel of Christ must be taught in humility. It can not come by conquering nations, and it can not be taught except with a humble spirit. We were admonished not to become jealous, but to rejoice in the prosperity of others. He read from the Scriptures and asked, "Do the people read these things?" and answered, "Many do"; but, "Do they understand them and try to live them?" It would appear many do not.

Singing, "We thank Thee, O God, for a prophet." Benediction by Elder J. Leo Seely.

The afternoon session commenced at 3 o'clock by singing, "Come, come, ye saints." Prayer by Elder William W. Kent. Singing, "Praise to the Man."

Elder Leonard J. Wayment, the first speaker, said he was glad to attend conference. He bore testimony that the true gospel of Christ had been restored to the earth, and that the angel St. John spoke of had come. The God of heaven had spoken. The primitive church was taken from the earth, and necessarily had to be restored. "We do not pretend to have anything new," he said, "but that through Joseph Smith, a prophet of God, the ancient gospel is again given to us."

Song by Sunday School children, "Jesus wants me for a sunbeam."

Elder J. Leo Seely was the next speaker. He thanked the Lord for the call to preach the gospel of Christ, and said he wished to perform his duty to the best of his ability. Our Savior came to this world and laid down the plan we are to follow, in order that we may obtain exaltation in His Father's kingdom. One of the ordinances He gave us was baptism. Christ told us how essential it was, when He said, "Thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness." He commissioned His disciples and sent them to teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. We cannot think that God is a respecter of persons and that baptism does not apply to us all. He said that infant sprinkling is not baptism: infants do not need baptism, as they have committed no sin, and are not capable of transgressing any law: also that original sin was atoned for by Christ. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism; and the baptism taught by Christ

was performed by immersion, and was instituted for the remission of sins.

Conference secretary J. Leo Seely then presented the general and local authorities of the Church. They were unanimously sustained.

Elder John E. Cottam, the next speaker, said that one of the greatest blessings we can enjoy is called hope. When the Apostle John was banished to the isle of Patmos, God revealed to him the great things that were to occur in the latter days, and showed him that the kingdoms of this world would become the kingdoms of God and of His Christ. Numerous instances were cited where men had set up kingdoms. We who have become members of this church are subjects of the kingdom of God, which has no human being at its head, but is governed by Christ Himself. As Latter-day Saints, we should be obedient to the laws of the land, but should pray for the time when Christ will reign and wickedness will be banished from the earth. The purpose of the gospel is to establish the kingdom of God upon the earth. War was never instituted by God, but Satan is the author of contention. One of the great revelations through Joseph Smith is that "The glory of God is intelligence." We are the offspring of God, and have ages before us for progress. We were sent from the home of our Father in heaven to come in contact with good and adverse conditions, but were not shut out from communication with Him. The speaker said we have a spiritual kingdom now, and that is "The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints," but it does not claim dominion over any part of the earth. Christ's kingdom will be set up later, and if we obey all requirements, we shall be citizens of this great kingdom.

Meeting concluded by singing, "The Spirit of God like a fire is burning." Benediction by Elder Sidney L. Wyatt.

The evening service commenced at 7 p.m. by singing, "O my Father." Prayer by Elder Leonard J. Wayment. Singing, "Come, follow me."

Elder Sidney L. Wyatt, the first speaker, said man did not come here by chance, but for a purpose. He spoke of our pre-existence, showing that we had progressed as far as possible in that state; then were placed on the earth and given mortal bodies, so that we could progress further. The great council in heaven was next spoken of, relating to Satan's plan, and then the plan of our Savior, which was accepted. Satan's followers were cast out of heaven, and were not permitted to take upon themselves mortal bodies. The restoration of the gospel was briefly referred to, and the speaker said we defy the world to prove we are wrong. He spoke of the opportunity to accept the gospel beyond this life. "but," said he, "if man will not accept it here, will he accept it there? It is our duty to preach the gospel and warn the nations, or their blood will be upon our heads."

A duet was rendered by Sisters Sarah Hans and Agnes Montgomery, "He's the one."

President Hyrum M. Smith was the last speaker. He expressed satisfaction at seeing the seats all occupied, and extended a hearty welcome to all, and asked all investigators to investigate thoroughly. He hoped that those who came to learn would be fed, and those who came to scoff would remain to praise and pray. The elders come without pay, and the gospel is not for sale. Certain ministers stand in the pulpit and sell their talk, just as doctors, lawyers, and engineers sell their efficiency attained from schooling. This is contrary to the gospel, and is unholy. "Mormonism" is the gospel of Christ, and as the name Christian was once applied in scorn, it is now a title of respect. Just so it will be with "Mormonism." The day will come when the "Mormons" will be sought for. Call it prophecy, or what you like, but the day is coming. As the Bible is part of the record of the dealings of the Lord with the people on the eastern hemisphere, so is the Book of Mormon a brief history of the word of the Lord to the Nephites on the American continent. The Book of Mormon was translated but once, and then by the gift and power of God. We believe all that God has revealed, all that He does now reveal, and we believe that He will yet reveal many great and important things pertaining to the kingdom of God. Latter-day Saints do not attempt to stop the mouth of the Almighty. "Mormonism" stands for purity in word and deed."

A solo was sung by Ruth Kenney.

Closing hymn, "I need Thee every hour." Benediction by Elder William W. Kent.

A priesthood meeting was held at 106 Ann Street, March 6th, at 11 a.m. Some valuable instructions and encouraging remarks were given by President Hyrum M. Smith and Elder John E. Cottam.

J. Leo Seely, Clerk of Conference.

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